

Announcement of Opportunity 2019

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COMNAP, IAATO, SCAR & WMO Fellowships and CCAMLR Scholarship

Antarctic organisations have today announced opportunities for early-career professionals.

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) have been working together for many years to support talented early-career researchers, scientists, engineers, environmental managers, and other professionals to strengthen international capacity and cooperation in fields such as climate, biodiversity, conservation, humanities and astrophysics research by way of an annual funding opportunity. For 2019, these Antarctic organisations are joined by the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) who will each support additional Antarctic-related fellowships.

Antarctic Organisations Launch Fellowships and Scholarship Opportunities

Today, COMNAP is joined by IAATO to launch Antarctic-related fellowships for early-career researchers. In 2019, COMNAP and IAATO will each offer one fellowship with funding of up to USD \$15,000. The fellowships enable early-career persons to join a project team from another country, opening up new opportunities and often creating partnerships that last for many years and over many Antarctic field seasons. Note that the application processes for the COMNAP and IAATO fellowships are separate from those for the SCAR and WMO Fellowships and the eligibility criteria differ. The deadline for the COMNAP and IAATO fellowship applications is **10 June 2019**.

SCAR will offer three to four fellowships of up to USD \$15,000 each for 2019 and WMO will also support a number of fellowships through the SCAR operated scheme. The details for the SCAR scheme will be similar to previous years but with additional opportunities for candidates from WMO countries. Full details will be available at launch, later in 2019.

The fellowships are announced in conjunction with the Scientific Scholarship Scheme of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). The CCAMLR Scholarship provides funding of up to AUD \$30,000 to assist early-career scientists to participate in the work of the CCAMLR Scientific Committee and its working groups over a period of two years. The objective of the scheme is to build capacity within the CCAMLR scientific community to help generate and sustain the scientific expertise needed to support the work of CCAMLR in the long-term.

This year there are two calls for CCAMLR scholarship applications, the first with a deadline of **29 March 2019**, and the second with a deadline of **1 October 2019**.

All opportunities are being jointly promoted by the organisations involved.

Background information:

For more information, visit:

- ✓ The SCAR website at: www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/information/
- ✓ The COMNAP website at: www.comnap.aq/SitePages/fellowships.aspx
- ✓ The IAATO website at: www.iaato.org
- ✓ The WMO website at: www.wmo.org
- ✓ The CCAMLR website at: www.ccamlr.org/en/science/ccamlr-scientific-scholarship-scheme

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)

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The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is an inter-disciplinary body of the International Science Council (ISC). SCAR is charged with initiating, developing and coordinating high quality international scientific research in and from the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system. SCAR Science Groups represent the scientific disciplines active in Antarctic research. They conduct the scientific business of SCAR and provide regular reports. In addition to carrying out its primary scientific role, SCAR also provides objective and independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and other policy-oriented organizations, on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

The Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP)

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COMNAP brings together the National Antarctic Programmes of 30 Antarctic Treaty countries. Formed in 1988, the purpose of COMNAP is to develop and promote best practice in managing the support of scientific research in Antarctica. It does this by: Serving as a forum to develop practices that improve effectiveness of activities in an environmentally responsible manner; Facilitating and promoting international partnerships; Providing opportunities and systems for information exchange; and Providing the Antarctic Treaty System with objective and practical, technical and non-political advice drawn from the National Antarctic Programmes' pool of expertise.

The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)

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The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) was established by international convention in 1982 with the objective of conserving Antarctic marine life. CCAMLR is an international commission with 25 Members, and a further 11 countries have acceded to the Convention. Based on the best available scientific information, the Commission agrees a set of conservation measures that determine the use of marine living resources in the Antarctic. CCAMLR practices an ecosystem-based management approach. This does not exclude harvesting, as long as such harvesting is carried out in a sustainable manner and takes account of the effects of fishing on other components of the ecosystem.

The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO)

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IAATO is a member organisation founded in 1991 to advocate and promote the practice of safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic. IAATO members work together to develop, adopt and implement operational standards that mitigate potential environmental impacts.

These standards have proved to be successful including, but not limited to: Antarctic site-specific guidelines, site selection criteria, passenger to staff ratios, limiting numbers of passengers ashore, boot washing guidelines and the prevention of the transmission of alien organisms, wilderness etiquette, ship scheduling and vessel communication procedures, emergency medical evacuation procedures, emergency contingency plans, reporting procedures, marine wildlife watching guidelines, station visitation policies and much more. IAATO has a global network of over 100 members.